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# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Budget woes to blame for Tuchi's departure

Another one bites the dust.

Ben Tuchi, vice chancellor for business and finance, announced Tuesday that he will leave the University to become the chief financial officer at the University of Pittsburgh. Administrators always come and go, but they seem to be leaving UNC in hordes these days.

Tuchi is just one in a long line of officials to leave in the past year because of the strain of dealing with state budget cuts. Too many of our top employees are being lured away by schools that can afford to offer higher salaries and fewer budgetary constraints. The General Assembly needs to understand the effects of drastically slashing the University's budget and should rethink its priorities.

Everyone has heard about the devastation of after-the-fact budget cuts. Now the consequences are making themselves known. Fewer class sections, crippled library purchasing power and departmental cutbacks all are part of the legacy of decreased state funding. But it is important to realize that a university is really only as good as its faculty, staff and students. When the administration loses high-quality professionals like Tuchi, the entire University suffers.

The pressure of controlling the finances for nearly every part of the University is difficult enough to handle without the added burden of trying to fill all needs with less money. Budget cuts simply make it too difficult for administrators to do their jobs. It's no wonder schools without these concerns are attracting our top officials.

## Student groups should keep seats on board

It appears that former Speaker Tim Moore may be changing his evil ways by learning to listen to the students he represents. Moore and fellow Congressman George Battle have withdrawn a bill which would have drastically altered the composition of the Carolina Union Board of Directors. A realization by Moore and Battle that the student body did not support their initiative on this issue prompted the proposal's withdrawal.

Currently, the presidents of the Black Student Movement, Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association, Residence Hall Association and Association of International Students appoint one representative to the Carolina Union Board of Directors. Moore and Battle's proposal would have eliminated these representatives and instead would have allowed Student Congress to appoint board members. This would have given congress the power to appoint more than half of the membership of the board and could possibly have turned it into yet another campus political organization.

## Thanks, town council - we love Dook, too

Yeah Duke!

The Chapel Hill Town Council expressed their constituents' true feelings by passing a resolution heartily congratulating the Duke basketball team. Certainly the Blue Devils needed the official support of Chapel Hill, because they haven't received nearly enough praise yet.

Certainly they will accept this town's accolades with the same spirit they exhibited in the final game. They were such gracious winners: no showboating or running up the score, just one last show of tact from those classy Devils.

The fact that council members Joyce Brown, Joe Capowski, Alan Rimer and Roosevelt Wilkerson all attended Duke had no impact on the council's decision. They were simply representing the community on an important matter.

Students should be furious about the lone dissenting vote from Mark Chilton. He said the council

Tuchi will join another former UNC vice chancellor, Dennis O'Connor, at Pitt. O'Connor resigned as provost last year to become Pittsburgh's chancellor. Other administrators who turned in their resignations last year included Gillian Cell, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Paul Rizzo, dean of the business school. Cell, like Tuchi, cited budget cuts as a primary reason for her departure.

How many more of UNC's best have to resign before the message gets across? Money can't solve all of the University's problems. But it would make it easier for the administration to operate effectively and for UNC to offer competitive salaries.

Granted, the state legislature has to work with a limited amount of money, and the UNC system is only one in a long list of demands. But North Carolina needs to make a commitment to state-supported education and back it up with some bucks. Now.

Our state can boast one of the best university systems in the country. UNC-Chapel Hill in particular has a top-10 reputation among all schools, public and private. But the more our school suffers from the loss of resources (whether they be books or vice chancellors), the harder it is to uphold this reputation.

It's time to get back to the basics. Highways aren't the future of this nation, education is. All that the interstates are good for these days is helping the best of our administration hit the road. The legislature was warned at the time of the devastating effects of cutting UNC's budget.

Wake up and smell the coffee - the worst is here.

The groups Moore and Battle wanted to remove from the board represent a large portion of the student body and use the Union services often.

There is no reason to give Student Congress the power to appoint such a large portion of the board while denying other campus groups a voice. The board controls which student organizations have the privilege of appointing members. The autonomy and flexibility of this system has allowed the board to adapt to the student body very effectively for the 35 years since the its creation.

There can be no doubt that turning the board into a quasi-committee of congress would be disastrous.

Surprisingly, the political system worked this time, and reason prevailed. The Carolina Union Board of Directors is safe for the time being, and it seems that Moore's tirades against minority groups may be losing their momentum. Who knows? If this new spirit of responding to student desires rather than playing political games can survive, a productive session of congress may even be at hand.

"cannot in good conscience discuss this matter at all." How absurd! Conscience dictates that Chapel Hill do all that it can to express the town's gratitude to Duke. Chapel Hill has reaped immeasurable benefits from Duke's victory.

Best of all, the Duke basketball players are expected to personally receive the resolution. Ideally, the mature, modest teen idol Christian Laettner will be the one to grace our town hall, though he is probably still traumatized by that Kentucky player who struck the bottom of his foot.

The only problem with the resolution is that the council didn't go far enough. They should have congratulated Duke on winning the ACC tourney and wished Duke luck for next year. A victory parade down Franklin Street wouldn't be asking too much.

However, it is good to see that our town's council at least recognizes that this notion of a rivalry is just a myth.



## People must recognize animals' right to life

I became a vegetarian a number of years ago because I read about the cruelty of factory farms, of hunting, of fur trapping and of animal research. My reasoning was simple: if I can choose between a practice that causes pain and suffering and one that does not, I should choose the latter, especially when only my convenience or taste are at risk. This alone is a sufficient reason for not eating animals. But I am a vegetarian because I support the animal rights movement and because I find the movement's philosophy morally and intellectually compelling. Here's a quick look at some of its fundamental principles.

Every year we kill 5 billion animals in our factory farms, hunting expeditions and laboratories. Before we kill animals, we torture them by testing cosmetics on their eyes, by cramming thousands of them in small spaces and by breaking their legs in fur traps. And we participate in this immense cruelty in order to satisfy our non-essential tastes for meat, cosmetics and fur coats.

It would be silly to say that humans hate animals. After all, we keep them as pets, we admire them in the wild and in captivity, and we protect a few from extinction. We also know animals sense pain and experience fear in the same way as humans. So how can we condone the endless and unnecessary carnage of animals? How is speciesism, the brutal discrimination against animals of other species, acceptable?

We extended the basic rights of freedom and equality to people of all races, then to people of both sexes, then to people with different political ideologies, religious beliefs and sexual orientations, because over time we reconsidered our previously "natural" (but now racist, sexist, homophobic, anti-Semitic) practices from the point of view of their victims. Why then should we not consider our speciesist behavior from the point of view of its many billions of victims? The only reasonable answer

could be that humans possess a certain common quality that grants them exclusive rights to be treated equally and justly, while animals of other species do not. If we are to justify our current treatment of animals, we must be able to clearly define what that special quality is.

We know what this inherent quality is not. It is not a certain level of intelligence, or the ability to speak, or even the ability to think. Some of us are smarter than others, yet we deserve equal rights. If the ability to think is the inherent quality that separates us from the animals, then we shouldn't mind eating victims of severe head injuries or the very senile. Moreover, some animals, such as chimpanzees, are clearly more intelligent than some humans, such as infants. If we are allowed to kill the chimp, why not the baby?

Nor can humans' exclusive feature be the ability to communicate with one another. We do, after all, grant mutes and the disabled the same basic rights as others. Most non-human animals do, in fact, communicate with one another, and some have been taught human sign language. An animal's inability to eloquently express that it is suffering should not be the reason to deny it equality of treatment.

Perhaps our exclusive right to be treated fairly is derived from our unique sense of self-consciousness. But this again is not necessarily a quality common to all humans; it is a quality that we develop over time. We express our self-consciousness in our culture: the books we write, the music we create and the gardens we plant. But as Bertrand

Russell points out, "whales might value spouting, and donkeys might maintain that good bray is more exquisite than the music of Bach. We cannot prove them wrong except by arbitrary power."

Clearly we cannot claim pain, nor desire, nor speech, nor intelligence, nor self-consciousness as the inherent quality that extends justice exclusively to us and not to animals. There must be a different common denominator that all humans have that gives them the right to live freely.

It may be that the common quality we're looking for is the state of being a "subject of a life." That is, humans are all subjects of a life regardless of our physical and mental capabilities, regardless of our usefulness to one another and regardless of our social standing.

What is common to all humans is that each is a conscious, sentient creature who is experiencing life with all of its pain and its happiness, its fears and its triumphs. Every human being is capable of leading a life that is either better or worse than the alternative.

Being a subject of a life is a quality common to all human beings, but it cannot be within their exclusive domain. Non-human animals share this quality with humans; they share the desire to live free of pain and restraint.

Since humans cannot claim that only they have an inherent right to life, then they must reasonably extend that right to all other beings who will to live. This is the fundamental premise of the animal-rights philosophy - that humans must stop carelessly using animals as means to their ends. It means that unless human lives are in immediate danger, humans must stop eating and hunting animals and cease using them in non-vital research.

Eric Wagner is a senior political science and biology major from Jerusalem.



Eric Wagner  
 Mind's Eye

## READERS' FORUM

### Cartoon of urinating Bush overly offensive

To the editor:

Over the years I've spent here at Carolina, I have seen The Daily Tar Heel spark many controversial arguments. Like any observer, I have taken sides both for and against this paper. From the Bill Hildebolt chalk fiasco, to CIAAC (CIA Action Committee) protests, budget cuts, mysterious attacks on statues, and attacks on Chancellor Paul Hardin's position on the black cultural center, the DTH has provided opportunities for opinionated students to let off steam within certain restraints of good taste. That is, until Monday. Moments after my delight at seeing the triumphant return of Calvin and Hobbes, I noticed that Monday's (April 13) DTH ran a political cartoon inked by a student which depicts President Bush urinating on the planet.

Now come on.

I've seen, heard, and read some pretty crass stuff while in college, but this ranks up there with the worst. Urinating on the planet? Sure, Bush hasn't exactly cleaned up the world, but this is downright disgusting. What's next? Chancellor Hardin defecating on Saunders Hall? Let's keep some parameters of taste and not allow the school newspaper to turn into UNC's version of some supermarket tabloid.

KENNETH MEDLIN  
 Senior  
 Political Science/History

### Keg policy focuses on social responsibility

To the editor:

Risk management and recycling can co-exist very effectively. Robert, Slifkin, author of the letter titled "Ban of kegs at fraternity parties combats recycling," represents a group of students who are behind the times. A trivial pro-environment stance, kegs=cleaner environment, does nothing to undermine the necessity of a risk-management policy. The Inter-Fraternity and Panhellenic councils' new alcohol-management policy seeks to teach fraternity

and sorority members about a safer and more responsible social environment. Furthermore, the IFC and the Panhellenic Council have already adopted programs to increase dramatically the level of recycling in chapter houses. Each chapter's recycling chairman coordinates programs to recycle paper and plastic as well as aluminum and glass containers.

No recycling dilemma exists. What does exist is the challenge to educate members of the University community about social responsibility.

ANDREW CARTER  
 Senior

Political Science/East Asian Studies

### Perot runs on platform of personal achievement

To the editor:

Have you heard of H. Ross Perot? There are a lot of people who haven't. Did you also know that he is running for president of the United States? Perot has said that if he is on the ballot of November, he will run as an independent, but to be put on the ballot requires the signatures of 65,000 registered voters in each state. I, for one, have already signed my name on the petition if for anything, to have more of a choice in November. I am speaking of Bush, the thousand points of light, the environmental and the educational president, and Clinton, the "I did not inhale it though..." probable Democratic candidate for president.

Ross Perot is a self-made billionaire from Dallas. He, like many of you, I presume, is fed up with the way Bush and Congress have been running the country. He used to work for IBM, branched off and started his own company called EDS, a computer-time-sharing company, which GM recently bought for \$2.5 billion. The guy doesn't want any campaign contributions since he has said he would finance it out of his own pocket. You may think that he is just like every other billionaire - chauffeur-driven limos and tailor-made suits - but he doesn't want and have those luxuries even though he could afford them.

Ross Perot is a man of action and

genuine sincerity, not rhetoric common in the other two. An example of this was when he hired his own commandos to rescue some of his employees who had been taken hostage in Iran shortly before the larger hostage ordeal. He has said that he would focus mainly on domestic issues, the biggest being the national debt, now at \$3 trillion. He wants to cut the wasteful spending and the perks. He has some foreign policy experience, being active in the release of American POW's in Vietnam. He also has been active in his own state of Texas with the education of that state's children, and he does favor abortion rights.

I feel that he could help in reducing our deficit since he obviously has had some success in business and finance. I think he would definitely bring leadership back to the presidency. The American political system needs new blood and life, and he is it. He has brought this increasingly apathetic voter back to life who has just about given up on the presidential campaign after Tsongas had left. The country, not only Perot, needs 65,000 signatures by June, and much more in November if things are going to change. If you are genuinely interested, but would like to know more, write to N.C. Citizens for Perot, P.O. Box 26191, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

EDWARD R. ALTHERR  
 Senior  
 Environmental Science

### Letters policy

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comments and criticisms. We attempt to print as many letters to the editor as space permits.

- Letters should be limited to 400 words. Shorter letters have a better chance of running.
- If you want your letter published, sign and date it. No more than two signatures.
- All letters must be typed and double spaced.
- Include your year in school, major, phone number and hometown.
- The DTH reserves the right to edit letters for space, clarity and vulgarity.

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